

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

S P E L U N K I N G A D V E N T U R E S

TROG

This 2½-hour trip, **offered for kids from 8 to 12 years old**, is designed to promote awareness of the important relationship between surface and cave environments. The trip takes troggers to cave passages not normally shown to the public. Trog begins at the Visitor Center and **parents must accompany their children for the first 15 minutes of the program** to hear the rules and assist the ranger in getting troggers prepared for the trip. **Parents must also pick up troggers promptly at the end of the program.** Troggers must wear long pants (jeans are best) and sturdy shoes. Helmets and lights will be provided. Kneepads are recommended.

The park ranger has the option to select one of two Trog routes:

1. Historic section of Mammoth Cave: This adventure includes a 0.2-mile surface walk and offers troggers the opportunity to see a variety of cave passages and learn about the human and natural history of the cave. A trip to this cave includes crawling, and troggers may get dirty.
2. White's Cave: This adventure includes a 1-mile walk on the surface to reach the cave entrance. In the cave, troggers discover that the darkness can be full of beautiful cave formations and living creatures. A trip to this small but varied cave may include crawling through some areas that are wet and muddy.

Trog costs \$7 and is offered every day in the summer and some weekend days in the spring and fall.



WILD CAVE TOUR

This 6½-hour, 5-mile trip is **offered to adults 16 years old and older**. The trip begins at the Carmichael Entrance and winds its way to Snowball Room through a variety of passages that the participant will find interesting and challenging. This area will include some **small openings, tight holes, a good deal of crawling, and some rock climbing. If you fear heights or close places, do not take this tour.** Participants will need to bring a lunch or plan to purchase

lunch at the Snowball Room (seasonally), and bring a small bottle of water. The only restroom along the route is located at the Snowball Room. After lunch, the group will explore a series of canyons that include the Cathedral Domes, a dramatic series of vertical shafts. These canyons lead to an area in which the group will navigate by **climbing and crossing chasms.** The trip will eventually exit through the Frozen Niagara section. The exact route will vary on each trip depending on the interest of the group, but all wild cave trips introduce visitors to safe caving techniques, cave geology, cave mapping, and

the history of Mammoth Cave exploration. **Participants must have a chest size of no larger than 42 inches.** Wild cavers should wear clothes that can be torn or soiled. **Required for the trip are sturdy shoes or boots, long-sleeved shirt, and long, sturdy pants** (jeans are best). Kneepads are provided, but participants may bring their own. **Gloves recommended.** Helmets and lights are provided.

Wild Cave Tour costs \$30 and is offered on weekends year-round with weekdays added during the summer. Tickets will be held at "Will Call" and must be picked up at least 30 minutes prior to trip departure or the tickets will be refunded.



INTRODUCTION TO CAVING

This 3¼-hour tour will introduce youths, adults, and families to the fun and excitement of cave exploring. During the trip you will learn safe caving techniques. The trip will start with a brief orientation in the Visitor Center Auditorium. the cave trip will visit small passages off traditional tour routes. **Stooping, bending, and easy crawling will be part of the trip.** Helmets and lights are provided. **Gloves and kneepads are strongly recommended,** and participants should wear sturdy pants and boots. Restrooms are not available.

Adults: \$12. Youths 8-15 years: \$8.

Youths must be at least 8 years of age.

Ages 8-15 must be accompanied by an adult.

Tour limit is 20. Tickets will be held at "Will Call" and must be picked up at least 30 minutes prior to trip departure or the tickets will be refunded.



For all cave tours, we strongly urge you to make reservations. Make reservations through Mistix no earlier than 56 days before and no later than one hour before you wish to tour the cave. If you live in the U.S.A. or Canada, make reservations by calling 1-800-967-CAVE(2283). From Europe, dial 1-619-452-8787. You can also make reservations in person at the park Visitor Center. In addition to the regular National Park Service fee for ranger-led activities, Mistix charges a \$1 fee for each ticket sold. For additional information on ranger-led cave trips, call the park at 1-502-758-2328, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Central Time.



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